GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
FINANCE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1907
ANSWERED ON:24.08.2007
REPAYMENT OF LOAN BY FARMERS
Chavda Shri Harisinh Pratapsinh;Thummar Shri Virjibhai

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of cases filed against the farmers for not paying Bank Loans during the last two years bank-wise;

(b) the amount of loan for which the said cases have been filed along with the details thereof, Bank-wise and State-wise;

(c) the number of farmers sent to jail for not repaying the said loans along with the number of farmers whose land have been attached in this regard State-wise;

(d) the reasons for not waiving of the loans of farmers up to the amount of rupees ten thousand; and

(e) the rules regarding waiving of the loans of farmers?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL)

(a) to (e) : The Data Reporting System does not generate information in the manner asked for. As regards waiver of loans, Government does not favour `across the board` waiver of loans as it vitiates recovery and credit culture.

However, the farm Credit Package announced by Government on 18.06.2004 for doubling the flow of agricultural credit, inter-alia, includes debt relief to farmers by way of reschedulement of loans with a moratorium period and `One Time Settlement Scheme` for small and marginal farmers. The farmers availing the benefit of this debt relief scheme became eligible for fresh loans from the banks.

Further, in 31 debt stressed districts in the four states of Maharashtra (06), Andhra Pradesh (16), Kiarnataka (06) and Kerala (03), a relief package was announced for farmers by the Government. It provides for waiver of the entire interest on overdue loans as on 01.07.2006 such that all farmers have no past interest burden as on that date. It also provides for reschedulement of the overdue loans of the farmers as on 01.07.2006 over a period of 3-5 years with a one year moratorium.

The Government has released Rs. 1.359.13 crore as its 50% share towards interest waiver for 31 districts during 2006-07.